

The Desert SUSTAINER

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Serving the soldiers of LSA Anaconda and Sustainer Army Airfield

Who wants to be a Soldier

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3rd COSCOM PAO

With soldiers being so far from home morale can dip. One unit on Logistical Support Area Anaconda attempted to raise its soldier's morale with an injection of pop culture.

The 371st Corps Support Battalion put on Who wants to be a Soldier?, a game for it's Soldiers modeled after the hit game show Who wants to be a Millionaire?

"It's for motivation," said Sgt. Patrick Wilson, who helped put on the show.



Cpl. Douglas Vaskey (left) and Sgt. Joshua Jarrel rush to answer the show's opening question and be the first Soldier to compete at Who wants to be a Soldier?

"It's the Christmas holidays and the Soldiers are away from home and their families so we wanted to keep the motivation up for the Soldiers," he said.

The show, which featured soldiers from the battalion's various companies, started with seven troops.

The contestant that answered the beginning question in the least amount of time had the first crack at the show's 10 questions and the grand prize, said Wilson.

Playing the show's Regis was Sgt. 1st Class Dion Davis from the 372nd Transportation Company.

"We were hoping he could motivate the crowd and the Soldiers so this would be fun and interesting," said Wilson.

Davis kept the show on track by keeping on the Soldiers and the crowd in a motivated yet comical way.

The questions asked of the Soldiers were similar to those one would hear when facing a promotion board.

"It's similar to facing a board but we wanted to get out of the board atmosphere and make it more fun," said Wilson.

As on the show, each contestant had three lifelines. 50/50, ask a friend and ask the audience were the Soldiers' choices when stuck on a tough question.

The show's champion, Pfc. Robert Gardner, 317th Maintenance Company, won by reaching question seven out of the ten possible.

"It's good to know that all the studying and brain cramming hasn't been for nothing," he said.

Gardner has had his nose in a study guide preparing for a board. He put that knowledge to good use when given the opportunity to compete in the game.

"I started studying for the Soldier of the month board. All the cramming I did for that made me ready for this," he said.

Gardner used all his lifelines on his first few questions but correctly answered several tough ones on his way to being the clear victor.

"The questions were tougher than I expected," he said,

A digital camera, courtesy of AAFES, was Gardner's grand prize as well as a bag of goodies.

Army to delay Soldiers' exits following redeployment

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The Army will prohibit troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan from retiring or leaving the service for other reasons for up to 90 days after arriving at their home bases, military officials said Monday.

The American military is suffering stress from global deployments of tens of thousands of troops in the wake of the 2001 attacks on America.

An Army official said the latest temporary "stop loss" order was to preserve cohesion in units as they reconstitute after serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Pentagon is preparing to begin replacing the roughly 123,000 U.S. troops serving in Iraq and 11,000 in Afghanistan — most of them soldiers — with fresh troops.

Among the first units rotating home beginning this month will

be the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

The Army planned to announce the move Monday, according to the defense officials who asked not to be identified.

There are 1.4 million active-duty troops in the American military, including 480,000 Army soldiers.

Some senior Army officers have privately called for increases in the number of troops in that service because they have borne the brunt of the deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has said he remains "absolutely open-minded" about a possible increase in the number of soldiers in the Army if internal Pentagon analyses show such a need exists.

"This is only temporary to preserve unit stability," said one Pentagon official.

U.S. starts fingerprint program

(CNN) — Many visitors to the United States now face a demand for fingerprints and photographs as a government program intended to fight terrorism takes effect Monday.

The new program covers those overseas visitors who are required to have a visa to enter the United States — an estimated 24 million people a year.

Not everyone will be put through the extra security steps.

Citizens from more than two dozen countries, mostly in Europe, aren't required to carry a visa if their visit is less than 90 days. Visitors from those countries are exempt.

Outside of Europe, the exempt countries include Japan, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and Brunei. Citizens of Canada generally do not need a visa to enter the United States.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security says the goal of the US VISIT program is to track the millions of people who come to the United States every year on business, student and tourist visas — and to use the information as a tool against terrorists.

US-VISIT stands for United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology.



A US VISIT program computer clears student Andres Morales through customs at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta on Monday.

Critics say the broad-reaching program will cause unnecessary travel delays and may never prove to be effective.

"There's so much information in such volumes that there's a limit to what any analyst can absorb," said Larry Johnson, an aviation security consultant.

Faiz Rehman, president of the National Council of Pakistani-Americans, points to the disruption in travel.

"Without proper training, there will be long lines, there will be missed flights, there will be people who would be wrongly stopped," Rehman said.

Outside the United States, there has been a backlash as well.

In reaction to the U.S. policy, Brazil

last week began fingerprinting and photographing American visitors arriving at Sao Paulo's airport. Brazil's Foreign Ministry has also requested that Brazilians be removed from the U.S. list.

The U.S. program, which has a budget of \$380 million, will require an estimated 24 million visitors to submit two finger scans and have a photograph taken upon entering any of 115 airports or 14 seaports.

Homeland Security spokesman Bill Strassberger said once screeners become proficient, the extra security will take only 10 to 15 seconds per person, The Associated Press reported.

Inkless fingerprints will be taken and checked instantly against a digital database for criminal

backgrounds and any terrorist lists. The process will be repeated when visitors leave the United States as an extra security measure and to ensure they complied with visa limitations.

Lawmakers who included the program in the Homeland Security Act of 2002 say the program will improve security.

Rep. Jane Harman, D-California, is among those who believe the new measures could help prevent a repeat of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

"We want to keep the bad guys out of our country," Harman said. "We want to identify them and keep them out, and we want to find them if they're already here. And we did a bad job of that on 9/11."

MWR Schedule

LSA Anaconda's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Sports Lounge features entertainment for soldiers and airman every night of the week. Monday through Thursday DJs play a variety of music. Friday nights feature a theme of either country, latin or hip-hop. Saturday and Sunday nights are reserved for sports.

PLUMBING WORK

In the near future buildings 4114-4169, 4247 and 4248 will be receiving fixtures and toilets in preparation for running water. The tennets of these buildings are encouraged to clear all bathrooms of garbage and excess storage as well as cease all plumbing being done by contracted Iraqis.

RESERVE ID CARDS

Due to units being extended, many reservists' ID cards are set to expire. Units confronting this issue should contact Staff Sgt. Jonathon Trussell, 90th Personnel Support Battlaion, to set up an appointment to renew their ID cards. Trussell can be reached at 551-9903. Amendment orders are needed for new IDs.

CONTACT US

The Desert Sustainer is a newsletter compiled printed and published by the 3rd Corps Support Command Public Affairs Office. Please send any comments, suggestions, submissions or story ideas to us by email at grant.calease@us.army.mil, or call 558-2053, or stop by Bldg. 4137.

USC, LSU duel No. 1's

NEW YORK (AP) — The wait was well worth it for Southern California.

USC finished No. 1 in The Associated Press college football poll early Monday, earning 48 of the 65 first-place votes.

The Trojans (12-1) beat out Coaches' poll champion LSU, which defeated Oklahoma 21-14 in Bowl Championship Series title game Sunday night in the Sugar Bowl.

"We're glad it concluded in the fashion we all hoped it would,"

Trojans coach Pete Carroll said, three days after his team beat Michigan 28-14 in the Rose Bowl.

"We're proud of that. We had a terrific foot-

ball season. We're really excited for that."

The coaches were obligated to crown LSU (13-1) even though USC held the top spot in their poll going into the bowls.

Three of the 63 coaches broke the agreement by voting the Trojans No. 1, but it wasn't enough to win the poll.

"The argument about the system is out there and that's probably good," Carroll said. "We did what we could, impressing the people in the AP poll and the coaches who felt free to vote."

It's the first split national championship since 1997, when Michigan won the AP poll and Nebraska was the coaches' choice. The BCS started the following season with the goal of choosing an undisputed champion.

In each of the first five years, only one



Chances are, Bourbon Street never has had a party like this. For the first time since 1958, Louisiana State has won a national title. The Tigers stifled high-powered Oklahoma 21-14 Sunday in the Sugar Bowl, earning a split of the crown with No. 1 USC



Pete Carroll raises the Rose Bowl Trophy after defeating Michigan and claiming half of the national title.

major team finished undefeated, making the choice simple. But with three top one-loss teams at the end of the regular season, chaos reigned this season.

"It doesn't bother me," LSU defensive tackle Chad Lavalais said. "It's like winning the lottery, but you have to share the Powerball with another person. It's still a good deal."

Seattle 27, Green Bay 33 (OT)



Al Harris scored on a 52-yard interception return in overtime. That touchdown lifted the Green Bay Packers past the Seattle Seahawks 33-27 Sunday in a first-round NFC playoff game. Seattle tied it with 51 seconds remaining on Shaun Alexander's third 1-yard touchdown run. Then Packers kicker Ryan Longwell was short on a 47-yard field-goal attempt as regulation time expired.

Dallas 10, Carolina 29



The Panthers ended the Parcells-led turnaround in Dallas by picking apart the Cowboys' top-ranked defense in a 29-10 victory in the first round of the NFL playoffs Saturday night. Delhomme threw for 273 yards and a touchdown, Stephen Davis ran for 104 yards and John Kasay, the last original Panther, tied an NFL postseason record with five field goals.

Denver 10, Indianapolis 41



Peyton Manning was many playoff perfect. The result was a 41-10 rout by Indianapolis over Denver sending the Colts (13-4) on to Kansas City for a second-round game with the Chiefs next Sunday. When he left game in the fourth quarter Manning had a perfect passer rating of 158.3 for the second time this season. The NFL's co-MVP went 22-of-26 for 377 yards and five TDs.

Tennessee 20, Baltimore 17



NFL career scoring leader Gary Anderson kicked a 46-yard field goal with 29 seconds left after a courageous effort by a limping Steve McNair, giving the Titans a 20-17 victory Saturday in a first-round playoff game. McNair, the league's co-MVP, engineered an eight-play, 35-yard drive to set up the winning kick, and Eddie George finished with 88 yards on 25 carries despite playing with a dislocated shoulder.